wall elements of one channel wall and a point between two adjoining wall elements of the other channel wall.

Brief Description of the Drawings

The invention will now be described in more detail by means of a preferred but non-limiting embodiment and with reference to the accompanying drawings.

Fig. 1 is a side view of a U-shaped channel which is used to manufacture a bobbin according to the invention.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view along line II-II in Fig. 1 and shows a channel segment of the channel.

Fig. 3A shows the channel segment in section along line IIIA-IIIA in Fig. 2.

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Fig. 3B shows the channel segment in section along line IIIB-IIIB in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is an end view of a bobbin which is made of a bent channel according to Figs 1 and 2.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view along line V-V in Fig. 4 and shows the bobbin.

Description of Preferred Embodiments

The bobbin 1 according to the invention is made of plastic and has a cylinder 2 with a circumferential end flange 3 at each cylinder end. Each end flange 3 consists of a plurality of spaced-apart radial flange elements 4, which are perpendicular to the cylinder axis and uniformly distributed along the circumference of the cylinder 2. In the preferred embodiment, all flange elements 4 have the same shape and size, but they could just as well have different shapes and/or sizes. The flange elements 4 have essentially the shape of an elongate rectangle, each flange element being connected with the cylinder 2 at one short side of the rectangle. The total width of the flange elements 4 of each end flange 3 is approximately equal to the circumference of the cylinder 2. For increased strength, the flange elements 4 are internally provided with radial stiffeners 14, or they are arched in cross-section.